

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 02615 271614Z
ACTION SS-25

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3931

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 2615

EXDIS

ARA FOR SCHLAUDEMANN, LUERS

ARA/CAR FOR HEAVNER/BLACKEN

FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, US, GI
SUBJECT: FONMIN REPORTS ON TRIP

REF: STATE 299365 (EXDIS)

1. WILLS TELEPHONED ME MORNING DECEMBER 24 TO SAY HE WAS BACK IN GUYANA AND TO WISH ME A MERRY CHRISTMAS. I ASKED ABOUT HIS TRIP AND HE REPLIED IT WAS HECTIC. HE MENTIONED HE SAW NO ONE FROM USG WHILE HE WAS IN NEW YORK BUT THAT WAS THE FAULT OF HIS "GUYS" AND NOT U.S. HE DID NOT ELABORATE FURTHER.

2. WILLS THEN ASKED ME ABOUT ANY NEW INITIATIVES FOR JOHN BLACKEN'S RETURN. I REPLIED THAT I HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY DISCUSSIONS OR INITIATIVES TAKING PLACE AS INSTRUCTED REFTEL. WILLS THEN MENTIONED MARGARIDA BLACKEN'S DEPARTURE AND I ANSWERED THAT SHE HAD LEFT TO SPEND CHRISTMAS IN THE US WITH JOHN.

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3. WILLS THEN SAID HE INTENDED TO BE MONUMENTALLY PATIENT AND MARK TIME UNTIL AFTER THE NEW ADMINISTRATION ENTERED OFFICE. HE HOPED AT THAT TIME TO TRY AND ARRANGE A MEETING WITH SECRETARY-DESIGNATE VANCE TO BREAK IMPASSE.

4. FONMIN THEN DISCUSSED TRIP TO NIGERIA AND LIBYA THAT WERE APPARENTLY WITHOUT RESULT. HE CHARACTERIZED QADDAFI AS A "LUNATIC" AND HIS REGIME AS "CRUEL". HE COMPLAINED THAT IN THE TWO DAYS HE WAS IN TRIPOLI HE ONLY SAW FOUR WOMEN, COULD NOT GET ANY ALCOHOL , AND SMOKING WAS FROWNED UPON, AND THE TELEVISION CARRIED ONLY POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS IN ARABIC. POOR FUN LOVING FRED DID NOT APPRECIATE THAT AT ALL. HE MENTIONED THAT HE SAW A FEW PEOPLE IN NIGERIA BUT NOTHING DEVELOPED FROM THESE CONTACTS.

5. THERE HAS BEEN NO LOCAL PRESS REPORTS ON WILLS TRIP SO PRESUMEABLY FROM THIS AND HIS COMMENTS TO ME NEITHER THE NIGERIANS OR LIBYANS ARE BEING PARTICULARLY GENEROUS WITH THEIR MONEY AT THIS TIME. HIS COMMENTS IN PARA 3 ARE PURE FRED WILLS AND REFLECT OFFICIAL THINKING HERE THAT PRESENT DEADLOCK IS FAULT OF USG.

PERSONAL NOTE. MISSION SENDS HAPPY NEW YEAR GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES FOR NEW YEAR.
MCCOY

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